## OUR GOLDEN WEDDING-DAY.

A LANGE half-century of genuine love, Full fifty years of faithful, tireless duty, Mark a life-partner given from above, Richer than wealth and fairer far than beautr.

Through all life's tasks, and trials, and tempta-A "helpmeet" true, and honest, and discreet; e and unspotted in the dear relations wife and mother; toward her children

As mother's love could make her; o'er her of little ones—"the heritage of God"—
No heartless hireling eye, nor alien band,
Watched for their welfare, or applied the

But she, who bore and nurtured and caressed
Their bab; hood, still gently held control;
They live to love her yet, and "call her
blessed;"
And this weak tribute to a priceless soul
Is paid by him who in her love found rest.

And, now, upon our fiftieth bridal morn, In spite of years of trial and of pain, Sad and evere, yet, in true meekness borne, God's peace and blessing our tried souls sustain.

And hope uplifts the hearf, and fills the eyes. As faith looks forward to the last and best-our more than golden wedding in the skies, The marriage supper of sternal rest.

Dear, patient wife! upon whose gentle face And in whose tender eye still beams the

Of youth, and hope, and joy, dashed with deep Of long-continued suffering, we draw near

The time when suffering shall forever cease.

Wait still a little longer till He come
To lead the soul, in gentleness and peace,
Up to its joyous, everlasting home.

—"Husband," in N. Y. Observer.

## YOUNG AMERICA.

(A FACT.)

"Come hither, you madeap darling?"
I said to my four-year-old,
"Pray, what shall be done to the bad, bad girl
Who will not do as she's told? Too well you love your own wee way, While little you love to mind: But mamma knows what is best for you, And isn't she always kind?"

So I told her of "Casabianca."
And the fearful burning ship.
Do you think," said I. " such a child as that
His mother would have to whip?"
And my heart went out with the story sad
Of this boy so nobly brave,
Who would not dare to disobey,
Even his life to save.

Then her eyes grew bright as the morning,
And they seemed to look me through.
Ah—ah, thought I, you understand
'The lesson I have in view.
"Now what do you think of this lad, my love?
Tell all that is in your heart."
"I fink," she said, "he was drefful good,
But he wasn't the least bit smart!"
—Julia M. Dana, in Youth's Companion.

## MARRIED IN THE DARK.

"I THINK, sir," said the old sailor. " that the more combiguous-like I make this here yarn, so far as localities and personalities are consarned, the better it will be, because there's them livin' at this blessed minnit as would tum-ble to it, so to speak, and might have hard feelin's ag'in me as givin' 'em dead away in a matter as wasn't none of my blessed business. Whether, therefore, it were the James River, nigh hand unto City P'int, or whether it were Mobile Bay, or whether Galveston Roads, or where not, don't matter. Neitherwise do it matter whether him as were skipper of the craft I were in were called Smith, Brown or Jones; the way I call him will be Clarke, a young chap and awful spooney onto a gal, she bein' a ship, with fore and mizzen stump to gallan' masts, bound to Havre with terbacker, not bein' able to load alongside of the wharf on account of draught and obliged to drop down when half-loaded to a p'int some four miles below, and insistin' on goin' up every night to see her, I bein' coxswain of the gig and frequent kep' waitin' till two bells of the mornin' watch afore he'd make his appearance.

"Hows'ever, it happens, sir, as men will go free, and go free, and go free, under most bewitchin' an' enticin' cumstances, and all of a suddint like, when it are least to be expected, some woman will drift athwart their hawse, and they're foul in a instant. So it were with this here skipper. He'd run the rag down in London and gone through the seductions of boardin'-houses in Liverpool. houses in Liverpool and New York, and beyond temporary beguilements had 'scaped unharmed, spooney as he was; but here, in a little twopenny-ha'-penny bit of a village, he come athwart his fate.

"We'd been a layin' there for a week I suppose when away come a bark to load for Rio. The skipper of her wa'n't named Williams, which are why I calls him so, and him and our old man they gits acquainted, and this here Williams he proposes to our old man for to go up to the hotel and have a game of billiards.

'I've been here a week,' says our old man, 'and I don't believe as there

are sich a place.' . O, yes, there are,' says this t'other skipper, 'come along'; and away they goes, and fetches up—as I've often heerd our old man tell the story—at the biggest house in the place, a big white

" 'This don't look like a hotel,' says our old man.

" 'Yes it are,' says the t'other skipper, a pullin' of the bell; 'it's all right, but in country places like this they shut

up early.'
"Well, there comes a darky to the door, and this skipper says, 'Where's all the folks?'

" Gone to bed, sar,' says the nigger. "'Call 'em up,' says the skipper, bold as brass, and in he marched to a well-furnished parlor, followed by our

" Blowed if I think this are a hotel;"

says our old man, and the other chap begin for to be doubtful, but both on 'em was completely flabber-gasted when, arter waitin' a half hour, there sailed into the room 'two of the most beautiful creeters,' so our old man always said when tellin' the yarn, 'as ever

"Well, sir, I needn't for to tell you that sailors is the bashfulest folks in the world, and neither our old man nor the world, and neither our old man hor the t'other skipper could say a word if it was to save 'em. The gals stood a waitin' for a explanation, and the two skippers stood sheepishly, not knowin' what to say. At last one of the gals asked what it all meant, and then our old man, though he were dead mashed with her as asked, mustered up courage for to say, 'It are all a mistake, marm, and it'll be a lesson for me all the days of my life never to steer my boat by any other man's compass; but this here chap up and tells me as he know'd of a good hotel, I bein' here a week and knowin' nothin' of it, and like a muss I I comes with him, and we fetches up here a-rousin' you out of your beds at an unseemly hour, though for the matter of that it aint yet gone four bells, and so aint very late.'

"'You see, ladies,' this other skipper chimes in, so I've heerd our old man tell. 'we're strangers here, bein' skippers of the two craft down at the dock, and time hangin' heavy onto our hands we thought a game or two of billiard would be about jonnuck, and bein' told as the hotel are up this way'-

"'I see,' says one of the gals, 'you mistook the street; the hotel, or what passes for one in this little place, are two streets below.'

"Jist then there come in a old chap as were the father of one of the gals and the uncle of the other, and the thing had to be all explained to him, and he invited the two skippers for to sit down, and they done so, and was soon draw'd out for to spin some yarns as to gales of wind as they'd seen and dangers they'd been into, and by and by the gals got the pianny agoin' and it were eight bells afore they come away, our old man always bein' willin' for to swear as he floated down to the ship through the air, never touchin' the ground at all.

"I suppose there never weren't no better cook and steward than we had onto our ship, and the dinner as they got up when the old man invited this old chap and the gals and the Collector of the Port and his wife and one or two others, jist to give 'em countenance, were a thing to be remembered. The loadin' went on slowly, in consequence of a rise in the market, the chap as had chartered the ship bein' agent for the French Government, not bein' able to buy at the price he were limited to, and under ordinary circumstances our old man would have fumed and fretted at bein' kep' all of his lay days; but he were that far gone that I reely believe he would have stayed there forever if he could. And the t'other skipper were jist about as bad, and half of their time were giv' to these cousins at their house, and t'other half the gals was down aboard of the ship. Wimmen are always dreadful soft onto sailor men under all circumstances, but here were two country gals, as hadn't had much pick of men nohow, and went dead off to onet. The old chap, hows'ever, didn't begin to half like it. He were a widderer and he needed this darter for a housekeeper, and the t'other gal had been trusted to him by her parents, as lived in another part of the State, and he didn't feel authorized for to let her jine with a rovin' skipper as were here to-day and would be gone to-morrow, and mayhap never come back. So, you see, he jist puts the kybosh onto all this love-makin' and tells our old man and the t'other skipper as they must sheer off.

enough about sich things to know as opposition in sich cases only makes matters worse, and as they couldn't meet openly, they met all the more by stealth

"There never yet were a woman, sir, as wouldn't help on an affair of this kind, no matter what the consequences were, and so the stevedore's wife entered into it heart and soul, and her house were made the place of meetin', the old daddy believin' as his command would be sufficient for the gals, and never dreamin' that they would disobey

"As I said fust off, arter loadin' to fifteen feet, we had to drop down four miles, takin' the rest of the cargo from lighters, and then begun my trouble-some connection with this courtin' scrape. Every night so soon as it were dark the gig were called away, and the old man, dressed in his best, would be pulled up to the landin' and would go off for to meet his gal, either at the stevedore's house or somewhere else. He had choosed us as a picked crew of steady men that he could depend on, and always giv' us a glass of grog on landin' and another when we got back to the ship. It were the old chap's darter as he were sweet onto, while the t'other skipper were mashed onto the cousin, and us two boats' crews was a lavin' low at the landin' every blessed night till all hours was gone. So things went on for a couple of weeks till our cargo were in, and both ships were ready for sea. The old man cleared out and got his papers from the Col-lector along in the arternoon, and we pulled him off aboard of the ship. Just afore we shoved off, there were a trunk brung down and put in the boat, and we took it off aboard of the ship.

"'Shall I h'ist up the gig, sir?' says the mate.

"'No,' says the old man, 'I shall want her to go in arter a tug-boat if so be as I concludes for to go out to-night, and you may git everythin' ready, sir, and heave short by and by, for the tide will sarve arter midnight and I may conclude for to go instead of waitin' till to-morrow arternoon,' says the old

"It don't look much like a sea-goin' night,' says the mate, 'and the glass are pretty low, I notice.'
"Oh, it's summer time,' says the old man, 'we needn't be afeard of weather this time of year.'
"About eight bells the gig were called away and we pulled the old man in as usual. 'Tom' says he to me.' I am usual. 'Tom' says he to me.' I am usual. 'Tom,' says he to me, 'I am goin' to trust somethin' very precious to you, and if all goes well you shall have ten dollars apiece for yourself and the rest of the gig's crew. I'm a goin' for to be spliced, and as soon as it's for to be spliced, and as soon as it's over my missus will be giv' to your charge, and you must pull for your lives aboard of the ship. I shall follow with a tug-boat and a pilot, and by daylight we'll be well outside. As soon as you git aboard show the lady right down to my room and let the steward have

charge of her.'
"It were about six bells when the old man came scurryin' down to the landin' and in a voice scarce above a whisper called for me. 'Aye, aye, sir,' says I, and in another minnit we had the lady in the boat and was off, leavin' the other boat's crew what belonged to the bark a-waitin'. The night were pitch dark, but we had pulled down there too many times to miss our way, and with the strong ebb tide a helpin us, in about a half-hour we was along-side and got the skippers' new wife safely on board. By midnight the tug come alongside with the old man and the state of the the pilot, and in fifteen minnits after that we was under way and towin' down. The old man tells the steward for to keep the missis locked in his room, so as the pilot shouldn's see her, and then he takes him down into the cabin for to have a glass of grog, and he goes into the mate's room and shifts hisself, puttin' on his sea clothes. You see he were afeard if the pilot know'd as she were aboard he might refuse for to take the ship to sea, he bein' well acquainted with the old man as was her

"When we got nigh down to the mouth of the harbor the pilot went aboard of the tug, which went on ahead, and we begin for to get the muslin onto her, sheetin' home and settin' all three of the topsails. There had been a heavy bank of cloud at the nor west from the time we started, and in this the lightnin' begin to play, and at in-tervals there would be a muttered roll of the thunder.

"'Never mind the to'gallan' sails,' says the old man, 'till we see what this are are goin' to amount to.' It were about six bells of the mid watch when we got outside and the tug let go of us, and it were about as ugly a lookin' mornin' as one would wish to see.

" 'Lay everythin' down clear for runnin',' says the old man, 'and have a

hand at each topsail halyards.'
"We'd jist got the foresail set when
with a tremendous roar the sound struck us.

"'Let go the topsail halyards,' sung out the old man, 'and send a man to the lee wheel; keep her dead afore it.' Down come all three topsail yards by the run, and we clapped on to the reef tackles and bowsed em out as far as we could git 'em, and then let her run. She soon gathered way and were off like a stuck dolphin, flying afore the squall at the rate of ten miles a hour.

"Will you reef her?" says the mate. "'No,' says the old man; 'let her go; it'll soon be over and we'll have fine weather arter it,' but he daredn't leave the deck for it were a awful hard squall and we kep' right along in it fill the time, the lightnin' bein' so inces-sant that the flashes seemed flashes of darkness and the rain comin' down in torrents. In a couple of hours, hows'we was able for to h'ist up the topsail

yards and give her the to gallan' sails.
"Then, for the fust time the old man were able for to go below and see his new-made wife. It weren't long, hows'-ever, afore he were up agin and sendin' for the mate. I were aft at the wheel and heerd all that were said, the old man knowin' that I know'd all about it

and so not mindin' me. "'There's been a awful mistake," says he to the mate, 'and I've married the wrong woman. This ain't my wife the wrong woman. This ain't my wife as is below, but it's her cousin; that is she are my wife, because I'm spliced onto her, but it were her that Williams

were to marry. "'How did it all happen?' says the

mate. "'It were all arranged,' says the old man, 'for the thing to come off at the stevedore's house at the landin,' the parson were let into the job and were giv a big fee for to splice the pair of us, and the stevedore's wife insisted on keepin' the whole house dark so no one would suspect anythin'. We was to be spliced fust, and then Williams and his gal, and how the two brides got mixed is more than I know; but we was all terribly excited, and jist as soon as the ceremony was performed I rushed my wife down to the boat, neither of us speakin' a word; and now what's to be

". Them as God has jined, let no man put asunder,' says the mate; 'what's done can't be undone. We're nigh thirty miles off shore and can't go back without a deviation of the v'yage as will vitiate the insurance. As nigh as I can make out, there's mighty little difference between the two gals, and if you, sir, could make up your mind for to like this one as well as you like the other, and if she can make up her mind for to like you, there won't be no harm done arter all. Besides, as it's probable that Williams has married the t'other gal, you can't have her nohow. My advice to you, sir, air to giv' up your room to this here young lady, and arter she gits

over her seasickness begin courtin' of her jist as if you'd never seen her afore. As an old married man I can assure you As an old married man I can assure you that the courtin' is about the best part of the business; you've had one spell of it ashore and can now have another spell of it at sea. Then if it be as you can't fancy each other by the time you gits to Havre, why you can find some decent people to put her in charge of and send her back, and I suppose there'll be some way found for to draw the splice you've made.

"'Mr. Brown,' says the old man, 'your advice are so far good that I

'your advice are so far good that I don't see no other way of doin'; you can go below and git your breakfast, and excuse me from j'inin' you, but in my present condition of mind I couldn't touch a morrel! ouch a morsel.

"Whether or no, sir, Captain Williams were spliced to the t'other gal, I never found out. This much, however, I do know, that a more lovin' couple than our old man and his wife was, afore they got to Havre, never was seen, which condition of harmony continues to this day, they bein' livin' over in Brooklyn at this very time! I've always had my idee as it were reckoned up for them two to be spliced, and that he never would have been half so well off with the t'other gal. - N. Y. World.

## HUMOROUS.

A DEALER in cheap boots says his goods cannot be under soled.

Hz kissed her pretty, rosy check. And when he'd finished up the biz, He found he had transferred some paint From her sweet countenance to his.

THE man who has the worst things to say about newspapers is the man who pays his subscription only when he has to do it .- Steubenville Herald.

THE new spring ulsters are a cross between pale green and a dirty gray, have a large number of buttons on the back and fit like a night shirt.- New Haven Register.

THE woman who is exceedingly sweet one's face and is very bitter behind one's back may be said to bear false sweetness against her neighbor.—

Troy Budget.

Bloggs wants to be assured, before he votes for a female School Board, that the members won't all jump on their desks if a mouse trots across the carpet. -Cincinnati Commercial.

Love never enters into Chinese stories. The hero is always a chap who made his ducats in America by laundry work, and the heroine is a girl who wants revenge on him because he killed

STATISTICS prove that a man who is knocked about in the world lives longer than one whose life is one of ease and comfort, and it is somewhat singular that they also prove that married men live longer than unmarried men.-Graphic.

THE average young lady of the period will pierce her ears, bang her hair and pinch up her waist until she resembles an attenuated wasp, yet if asked to wash the dishes or sweep out a room she will reply that she cannot possibly stand such violent and tortur-ing exercise.—Waterloo Observer.

A POOR fellow up town fairly danced with joy when the doctor told him he had Bright's disease. "What will the Smith girl say now?" he exclaimed, triumphantly. "She always said there was nothing bright about me! O, I guess not; but the doctor's certificate will show what sort of a hair-pin I am." -N. O. Picayune.

A CLASS of little "primary" children were busily engaged in their reading lessons. They read in order, something like the following: "The hat is in the box." "The man is in the box." "The rat is in the box." "The cat is in the box." When all at once up came a chubby little hand, the signal for permission to speak. "Well, what is it, Mattie?" said the teacher. "I should fink 'e box 'ood be full after a while."

THE serio-comic ideas that enter the head of Sambo, when exercised on religious matters, causing anxiety per-haps to himself but laughter to the listener, were exemplified in the case of an "uncle" in Chester, S. C., who had been to a camp-meeting, and returned greatly troubled about his sins. Perceiving him one day with a downcast look, his master asked him the cause. "Oh, Massa, I'm such a great sinner!"
"But, Pete, you are foolish to take it so
much to heart. You never see me troubled about my sins." "I know de reason, Massa: when you go out duck shooting, and kill one duck and wound another, don't you run after de wound-ed duck?" "Yes, Pete." And the master wondered what was coming next. "Well, Massa, dat is de way wid you and me: de debbil has got you sure; but, as he's not sure of me, he chases dis chile all de time!"

THE crown of England is very costly. There are twenty diamonds round the circle, worth \$7,500 each, making \$150,000; two large center diamonds, \$10,000 each, making \$20,000; fifty-four smaller diamonds, placed at the angles of the former, each \$500; four crosses, each composed of twenty-five diamonds, \$60,000; four large diamonds on the top of the crosses, \$20,000; twelve diamonds contained in the fleur de lis, \$50,000; eighteen smaller diamonds contained in the same, \$10,000; pearls, diamonds, etc., upon the arches and crosses, \$50. 000; also, 141 small diamonds, \$25,000; twenty-six diamonds in the upper cro \$15,000; two circles of pearls about the rim \$15,000. The cost of the stones in the crown, exclusive of the metal, is, therefore, nearly \$500,000.

RAILINGS for the protection of brake-men are to be placed on the tops of freight cars on the Grand Trunk Rail-





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My dampher's health is much improved, and she hopes the
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long time. The foundation of her trouble was last 20 years ago.



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